

Tom Horne
Superintendent

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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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(Monday, April 11, 2005)

TOM HORNE TO VISIT SONORA AND MEET WITH SONORA EDUCATION SECRETARY IN CONNECTION WITH SONORAN ACCOUNTABILITY AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAMS

PHOENIX (Monday, April 11, 2005).

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Horne has accepted the invitation of Sonora's Education Secretary to visit Sonora. The meeting is a follow-up to two meetings by Sonora State Education officials to Arizona last year where they were presented with information about Arizona's student and schools accountability program and the use of technology in the classroom. The state of Sonora has begun a process of student assessment and accountability which was developed in part with information shared by Arizona. Superintendent Horne and Secretary Soria Salazar will discuss their individual state experiences in the implementation of their respective accountability systems and try to identify improvements which could benefit both states.

This is the first time in recent history that the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Secretary of Education from Sonora have met in Sonora to discuss education issues that relate to students on both sides of the border.

Horne stated, "Sonora has expanded their English as a foreign language program into their elementary grades, beyond their mandatory English program in middle schools. I will tour elementary, middle and High School classrooms in Guaymas, Sonora where English as a foreign language is being taught."

The two highest ranking education officials from Arizona and Sonora will also talk about the education of Migrant students and the Migrant Education Bi-National Teacher Exchange Program.

The meetings are scheduled in Sonora on April 14, 15 and 16.

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